

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-20 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 5, 9, and 18 being the independent claims. Claim 9 has been amended as indicated above. Claims 15-20 are added. This change introduces no new matter, and entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Allowed Claims

In the Action on page 2, claims 1-8 are allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing these claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Action on pages 3-5, claims 9-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Microsoft Office '97 (hereinafter "Microsoft"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As amended, claim 9 recites an electronic mail system comprising: a user-assignable personal file folder adapted to store user selected previously received incoming messages and all outgoing messages; and *at least one sent mail sub-folder* in said user-assignable personal file folder, *wherein a copy of said each of said outgoing messages is automatically stored in said sent mail sub-folder, and wherein said sent mail sub-folder is named by one of said outgoing message's recipient's e-mail address or said outgoing message's recipient's user name.*

Microsoft fails to teach at least one element of claim 9.

Microsoft fails to teach *at least one sent mail sub-folder* in said user-assignable personal file folder, *wherein a copy of said each of said outgoing messages is automatically stored in said sent mail sub-folder, and wherein said sent mail sub-folder is named by one of said*

outgoing message's recipient's e-mail address or said outgoing message's recipient's user name. Instead, the folders and subfolders described in the Microsoft Office reference (p. 780) are used to store incoming messages. The first paragraph on this page refers to folders in which a user could store messages received regarding a project, and folders for the most common types of email received. In contrast, the present invention includes a personal file folder into which incoming, previously received, and outgoing messages can be stored.

Further, while Microsoft provides a single Sent Mail folder for storing **all** sent messages, Microsoft fails to teach or suggest a sent mail sub-folder in a user-assignable personal file folder, where a copy of the outgoing mail is **automatically stored** in the sent mail sub-folder, and where **the sent mail sub-folder is named by one of said outgoing mail's recipient's e-mail address or said outgoing mail's recipient's user name.** This feature of the claimed invention allows a user to store all email, incoming from and outgoing to a username or e-mail address, in a single user-assigned personal file folder, which can make later retrieval of a message much easier to locate. Further, the Inbox Assistant cited in Microsoft, page 804, can only apply sorting rules to **incoming** messages. It does not allow the automatic storage of outgoing mail into user-assignable folders. For at least this reason, therefore, Microsoft fails to disclose all features of claim 9 and therefore fails to anticipate this claim. Claim 9 is therefore allowable, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 10-14 depend from claim 9, and are allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Added Claims

Claims 15-17 are added as dependent claims from claim 9. Claims 15-17 are therefore allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Claim 18 is also allowable since the applied references fail to teach or suggest a machine readable medium for performing a method including upon sending an e-mail, storing the e-mail in a folder named by the e-mail address or username of the recipient.

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Claims 19 and 20 depend from claim 18 and are allowable as being dependent from an allowable claim.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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